

# Wave

A publication  
for the Long Beach community

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City web site: [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov)

## Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century Long Beach Water Department

The prosperity and quality of life we enjoy in Long Beach would not have been possible had previous generations of water customers failed to invest in water reliability and quality.

The City currently imports about half of its drinking water; the balance it pumps from aquifers deep underground. The 18 million people living in Southern California share this water, which is imported through the region's two great aqueducts: the California Aqueduct and the Colorado River Aqueduct. These aqueducts convey water from the San Francisco Bay /Sacramento Delta area and from the Colorado River.

The Colorado River watershed, which begins on the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains in Wyoming and Colorado, is in the fifth consecutive year of drought (see photos of Lake Mead). That, combined with increased demands from other states such as Arizona and Nevada, has sharply curtailed our region's access to high-quality, affordable Colorado River water. Growing demands for water in Southern California and throughout the Southwestern United States create one of the major challenges the water industry will face in the 21st Century: providing reliable and affordable supplies of high quality water.

The Long Beach Water Department continues to make significant investments locally to ensure water supply reliability. We were the

**first** water agency in Southern California to invest in conjunctive use – a process of storing water underground for use in dry years. We were the **first** to invest in major research into seawater desalination and remain the **most significant** federal investment in seawater desalination research in America. We continue to invest in the **expansion** of the reclaimed water distribution network, bringing this important source of irrigation water to new areas within the City. We invest heavily in **replacing** old water mains, taking out of service those pipelines most likely to waste huge amounts of water and put our customers out of service when they break. We aggressively protect our water supplies through investments in the maintenance of water wells, and water treatment and storage equipment. Finally, we invest in programs to educate you, our customers, about how to use water wisely and to encourage **water conservation**.

The high level of water quality and reliability currently enjoyed by the City would not have been possible without past investments. Likewise, the City's future water reliability and quality rest on investments we are making today and will continue to make in the future. **Reliability. Quality. Affordability.** These goals drive your Water Department.

Remember to use water wisely, every drop is precious.

### Lake Mead at Hoover Dam



## David W. Ellis Named Long Beach Fire Chief

Long Beach City Manager Gerald R. Miller has named David W. Ellis as the new Long Beach Fire Chief.

"The citizens of Long Beach are in great hands given the quality of the command staff of the Fire Department and the qualifications of Chief Ellis, who will be an outstanding leader for years to come," said Mr. Miller.

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## Fiscal Year '05 Budget

Please check the City's web site,  
[www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov),  
or call 562-570-6835,  
for current information on Fiscal Year '05  
(October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005)  
Budget planning activities.

## Summer Reading Programs

Long Beach Public Library children and teens will **"Ride a Wild Tale"** and **"Stampede to Read"** this summer during the 2004 Summer Reading Program. Kids will be tracking their time spent reading, chasing Tricky Coyote across a desert game sheet, solving library puzzles, and enjoying storytimes and book clubs. With materials, artwork, activities, incentives and special events highlighting southwestern trickster tales, the program encourages young people and their families to share books every day, and supports school readiness, school achievement and lifelong learning. The annual Summer Reading Program reaches nearly 7,000 young people through the libraries and in partnership with community organizations, and is funded by the City of Long Beach, the Friends of the Long Beach Public Library, The Employees Community Fund of Boeing California, various local businesses, and the Metropolitan Cooperative Library System.

## 72nd Annual International Sea Festival

The popular International Sea Festival is back! This year's events offer all the variety and fun you've come to expect with 15 activities scheduled for all ages from toddlers to seniors, for amateurs and professionals, and for seafarers and landlubbers alike. Held in July and August in Long Beach, activities include the Chinese Dragon Boat Race and the Great Sand Sculpture event. For information, call the Sea Festival hotline at 570.8920 or visit the web site at [www.lbparks.org](http://www.lbparks.org).



## Fire Chief Ellis *Continued from front page*

Chief Ellis has had 22 years of professional experience with the Long Beach Fire Department. He began his service as a firefighter with the Glendale Fire Department in 1980. Chief Ellis became a firefighter in the City of Long Beach in 1982 and was promoted to paramedic in 1985. He was made Captain in 1991 and Battalion Chief in 1997. In March 2000, Chief Ellis was named Assistant Fire Chief.

"As Fire Chief, I will provide the direction and leadership required to support the finest city in the nation. My commitment to the safety and success of the City, along with the men and women of the Long Beach Fire Department, motivates me to contribute all I can to public safety. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities the future holds for the City and the Long Beach Fire Department," said Chief Ellis.

## Long Beach Airport Runway Update

Long Beach Airport's main runway (12/30) has been undergoing resurfacing since December. For seven Saturdays between July and September, work will be performed during daylight and evening hours, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., causing the main runway to be shut down and traffic diverted to the alternate runway (7L/25R). Specific information will be mailed to impacted communities. Information is also available on the Airport's web site, [www.lgb.org](http://www.lgb.org). To be automatically notified of Long Beach Airport Construction Project Updates, please sign up for E-Notify on the City's web site, [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov).

## Long Beach Economic Development

Sometimes a business needs money to make money. The Economic Development Bureau offers various types of low-interest loans to small businesses located in the City of Long Beach. Call one of our helpful loan counselors at 570.3800 for more information.

## LBTv8 Covers City

Get to know your city by watching cable station Channel 8 for interesting information about Long Beach. Programming includes live coverage of Long Beach City Council meetings; *Snapshot: Long Beach*, a special focus on our diverse community; *Heart of the City*, a program featuring the City's elected officials; *Letter of the Law*, a view of law and order issues in Long Beach, and *Reality Check*, insight and discussion on topics of interest to local youth. Check it out! You're sure to see something of interest.

## HOW TO REACH US

We put **ENERGY** into providing quality, reliable, environmentally friendly service!

Long Beach  
**ENERGY**

### Gas Services

Pilot Lighting	570.5700
Appliance Inspection	570.5700
Billing Inquiries	570.5700
New Service/Turn On/Off	570.5700
Suspect a Gas Leak/Emergency	570.2140

### Recycling

Recycling Assistance	570.2876
Composting Information	570.2876
Used Motor Oil Container	1.800.RECYCL2

### Street Sweeping

Information	570-2890
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### Refuse Collection

Special Pickups	570.2876
Information	570.2876

Visit our web site at [www.lbenery.org](http://www.lbenery.org) for more information.